**PATENT** 

## S/N unknown

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

NOBUHARA et al.

Serial No.:

unknown

Filed:

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Docket No.:

13409.3US01

Title:

FILTER CARTRIDGE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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Name: Yolanda Grav

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the

following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 5-1/1 and 13-1/5 as follows:

- The filter cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least a part of fiber intersections of the non-woven fabric strip is thermally bonded.
- The filter cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-woven fabric strip has a width of 0.5 to 40 cm.
- The filter cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein a product of a width (cm) and a basis 7. weight (gim2) of the non-woven fabric strip is 10 to 200.
- The filter cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-woven fabric strip has a thickness of 0.02 to 1.20 mm.
- The filter cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-woven fabric strip is thermal compression bonded by means of a heat embossing roll having an embossing area rate of 5 to 25%.

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